to show that the department has not done anything for the elevation of the condition of the Valans, he wanted to say something where the department had actually done, something useful; but he had to stop his speech, because, the time allowed to him had expired, and he said that, to-morrow, when he proposes a motion of a cut of one rupee, he will take the House into his confidence and narrate all that the department has done for the alleviation of the condition of the fishing folk.

So far as the constitutional policy is concerned, I think our Government is in a very sound condition now and that no announcement or reply is possible or is expected at this stage.

These are the only remarks that I have got to make.

Mr. A K. Vengu Ayyar.—Sir, after all that has been said here in connection with the general debate on the budget, and the way in which it has been said, I feel considerable diffidence to speak anything in defence of a system viewed and criticised from different standpoints. Much of what has been said is but a repetition of what was said on the last occasion. To me it seemed that what the speakers dwelt upon was a matter of faith and belief to them, and in an atmosphere like that anything in the nature of a statement of fact, given with the moderation necessarily incumbent on this side of the House, must fail to produce immediate effect. I shall, therefore, content myself with adverting to a few general facts raised in the course of the discussion.

Palace expenditure.—If I am right, this is the first time when the expenditure incurred on the Palace has been brought for discussion in the course of the general debate. I am not surprised at it, for the allotment of 5 lakhs of rupees is one sufficiently large to arrest attention. The pity of it, however, is that the Palace budget, as a whole, is not before the House, and they are, therefore, not in a position to realise the details of expenditure demanded of these funds. A full knowledge, I am sure, would have disillusioned the House and converted the critics into warm supporters of an enhanced allotment, if such a proposal was before the House. I may add, for the information of the House, that the condition of our Royal Family is, in many ways, not so advantageous as that of other Native States in India, and yet, the allotment now set apart for Palace purposes proportionately falls short of similar allotments set apart in other States. I think this is a point on which we must congratulate ourselves. Besides this, if we were disposed to go into the comparative expenditure incurred here and elsewhere, on Palace buildings and other paraphernalia of royalty, the contrast will all the more be striking.

Constitutional changes.—This House, which I have the privilege to address to-day, is a monument of His Highness' solicitude for the subjects in this direction, and it

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly